



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: JOE D. BROWN)	
)	Examiner: Unknown
Serial No: 10/680,426)	
)	Group Art Unit: 3739
Filed: October 8, 2003)	
)	
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CAUSING)	
DETECTING OF A SURGICAL INSTRUMENT)	

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §1.51(b), §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified is submitted herewith, except that a copy of any U.S. patent application identified herein or any patent, publication or other information listed herein cited or submitted in a prior application relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120 and identified below, is not submitted herewith.

CERTIFICATION

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted within three months of (i) the filing date of the above-identified U.S. National Patent application, or (ii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the above-identified International Application, or (iii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the International Application that has been assigned the above-identified U.S. Patent application number, whichever applies.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 02-0200.

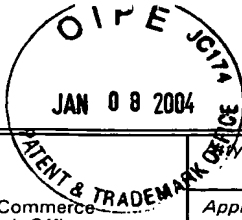
Respectfully submitted,



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B/O Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant	Applicant	Serial Number
	BROW3007/BEU	10/680,246
	Applicant JOE D. BROWN	
	Filing Date	Group
	October 8, 2003	3739

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Patentee/Applicant	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	4261644	4/81	Giannaris			
	5766164	6/98	Mueller et al.			
	6039727	3/00	Javier Jr. et al.			
	6066131	5/00	Mueller			
	6110164	8/00	Vidlund			
	6162214	12/00	Mueller et al.			
	6240231	5/01	Ferrera et al			
	6344037	2/02	Suorsa et al.			

Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country/Agency	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No

Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Place of Publication, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.